



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

PO BOX 202501
HELENA MT 59620-2501
www.opi.mt.gov
(406) 444-3095
(888) 231-9393
(406) 444-0169 (TTY)

Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

THINK FOOD

School Nutrition Programs

July 2007



WELCOME BACK!

NEW COMMODITY SURVEYS

The following new commodities have been ordered for this year:

Pork, Cooked Seas Patty
Strawberry Cups, Frz.
Mozzarella, LMPs, Shred. Frz.
Rice, Brn, Lng Grn, Quik Cook

We want to hear how you and your students liked these products. We will be sending out surveys as these new items are shipped. Your opinion matters so please take a few minutes to complete and return the surveys to Food Distribution.

If you did not order any of these new items there are still some

brown rice and pork patties available. Use a Commodity Request form to place your order.

COMMODITY CARRY-OVER REMINDER BEST WHEN FRESH

Ideally, it is best to serve food at its freshest, including commodities. If you stored food through the summer be sure to use it during the first few months of school.

ADDITIONAL COMMODITIES

With your commodity order was a list of additional commodities that are available throughout the 2007-08 school year. To order additional items please use a Commodity Request form

available at:

www.opi.mt.gov/schoolfood/foodDistNEW.html.

Fax your request to Food Distribution at (406) 444-2955.

Please fax your orders by the deadlines listed.



HOLDS AND RECALLS: THE IMPORTANCE OF TRACKING FOOD

Holds and recalls on food serve a valuable purpose. They remove products from commerce that have quality problems or that may cause harm.

It is critical to be able to track food within your own facility so that a suspect food can quickly be located. The most important pieces of information for identifying specific commodity products are the contract and delivery order numbers. These can be found on the boxes or case packaging, but are not usually found on the individual units within a case.

If the product is removed from the original case, the identity of the product can be lost. To be better prepared for a hold or recall, we suggest that when you remove products from their original packaging, you use some method or system for maintaining identifying numbers. This could be as simple as writing the contract and delivery

order numbers on a blank label and sticking it on one of the product units.

LESS PROCESSED FOOD

Due to rising costs we were unable to process enough beef/chicken to fill everyone's orders this year. The number of cases we receive will be allocated in the Fair Share Method. The items processed were the Breaded Beef Steaks, Charbroiled Beef Patties and the Chicken Patty Tenders.



RI\$ING COST\$

Warehouse handling charges will increase this year. With the rising prices of diesel fuel, Watkins and Shepard's fuel surcharge will increase also.

This year, the shipping and handling charge for RCCIs and Private Schools will be \$3.55 plus fuel surcharge per case. You will receive an invoice for this at the end of the school year.



Unfortunately, with these rising costs Food Distribution may, in the future, find it necessary to require schools to help with shipping, handling and processing costs.